

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 5, 2013

CONTACT: Marcheta Strunk, Public Information Office, 623-930-2822

## GLENDALÉ COUNCILMEMBER CHAVIRA HIGHLIGHTS SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION ON GLENDALÉ TODAY

**Glendale, Ariz.** — Glendale Councilmember Sammy Chavira's new edition of the TV show "Glendale Today" features representatives from DrugFreeAZ.org and Glendale's Police Chief Debora Black who discuss substance abuse prevention. Chavira interviews DrugFreeAZ.org's program managers Kim Obert and Theresa Londoño and Police Chief Black about the types of substances abused, why prevention is important, what parents can do and what prevention strategies the Glendale Police Department utilizes.

Councilmember Chavira and Obert share personal stories of losing immediate family members to drugs. Obert lost her son, and Councilmember Chavira's brother died due to substance abuse.

DrugFreeAZ.org works to prevent and reduce youth drug and alcohol use through community education and awareness by providing parents, caregivers, healthcare providers, educators and others with educational tools, information and resources. The agency is an Arizona affiliate of the national organization, Partnership for a Drug-Free America.

Obert and Londoño speak about the effects of substance abuse to individuals and families; why prevention messages are targeted to kids, teens and those in their early twenties; the risks facing youth today, along with the importance of "active parenting."

Police Chief Black points out the new trends in abused drugs, how the Glendale Police Department is working with DrugFreeAZ.com and how substance abuse affects the community.

The 30-minute TV show, produced by the staff at the city's TV station, Glendale 11, will debut Friday, Dec. 13 at 8 p.m. and will then air daily on Glendale 11 as well as online via the city's video library at [www.glendaleaz.com/video](http://www.glendaleaz.com/video). Exclusive segments can also be found on the city's YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/MyGlendale11](http://www.youtube.com/MyGlendale11).

For more information about the new TV show, visit [www.glendaleaz.com/glendale11](http://www.glendaleaz.com/glendale11). For more information on DrugFreeAZ.org, visit [DrugFreeAz.org](http://DrugFreeAz.org). For more information on the Glendale Police Department, visit <http://www.glendaleaz.com/police>.

###